

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on S. Con. Res. 79 today because I was traveling on official business to a Middle East regional security conference in Athens, Greece, and then on to Egypt and Israel for meetings with top government officials. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS, 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4745.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4745, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 5, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 11]

YEAS—410

Abercrombie	Capps	Engel
Ackerman	Capuano	English (PA)
Aderholt	Cardin	Eshoo
Akin	Cardoza	Etheridge
Alexander	Carnahan	Everett
Allen	Carson	Farr
Andrews	Carter	Fattah
Baca	Case	Feeney
Bachus	Castle	Ferguson
Baird	Chabot	Filner
Baker	Chandler	Fitzpatrick (PA)
Baldwin	Chocola	Foley
Barrett (SC)	Clay	Forbes
Barrow	Cleaver	Ford
Bartlett (MD)	Clyburn	Fortenberry
Barton (TX)	Coble	Fossella
Bass	Cole (OK)	Fox
Bean	Conaway	Frank (MA)
Beauprez	Conyers	Franks (AZ)
Becerra	Cooper	Frelinghuysen
Berkley	Costa	Gallegly
Berry	Costello	Garrett (NJ)
Biggart	Cramer	Gerlach
Bilirakis	Crenshaw	Gibbons
Bishop (GA)	Crowley	Gilchrest
Bishop (NY)	Cubin	Gillmor
Blackburn	Cuellar	Gingrey
Blunt	Culberson	Gohmert
Boehlert	Cummings	Gonzalez
Boehner	Davis (AL)	Goode
Bonilla	Davis (CA)	Goodlatte
Bonner	Davis (FL)	Gordon
Bono	Davis (IL)	Granger
Boozman	Davis (KY)	Graves
Boren	Davis (TN)	Green (WI)
Boswell	Davis, Jo Ann	Green, Al
Boucher	Davis, Tom	Green, Gene
Boustany	Deal (GA)	Grijalva
Boyd	DeGette	Gutierrez
Bradley (NH)	DeLauro	Hall
Brady (PA)	DeLay	Harman
Brady (TX)	Dent	Harris
Brown (OH)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hart
Brown (SC)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hastings (FL)
Brown, Corrine	Dicks	Hastings (WA)
Brown-Waite,	Dingell	Hayes
Ginny	Doggett	Hayworth
Burgess	Doolittle	Hefley
Burton (IN)	Doyle	Hensarling
Butterfield	Drake	Herger
Buyer	Dreier	Herseth
Calvert	Edwards	Higgins
Camp (MI)	Ehlers	Hinojosa
Cannon	Emanuel	Hobson
Cantor	Emerson	Hoekstra
Capito		Holden

Holt	McNulty	Sánchez, Linda
Honda	Meehan	T.
Hooley	Meek (FL)	Sanchez, Loretta
Hosettler	Meeks (NY)	Sanders
Hoyer	Melancon	Saxton
Hulshof	Mica	Schakowsky
Hyde	Michaud	Schiff
Inglis (SC)	Millender-	Schmidt
Inslee	McDonald	Schwartz (PA)
Israel	Miller (FL)	Schwartz (MI)
Issa	Miller (MI)	Scott (GA)
Istook	Miller (NC)	Scott (VA)
Jackson (IL)	Miller, George	Sensenbrenner
Jackson-Lee	Mollohan	Serrano
(TX)	Moore (KS)	Sessions
Jefferson	Moore (WI)	Shadegg
Jenkins	Moran (KS)	Shaw
Jindal	Moran (VA)	Shays
Johnson (CT)	Murphy	Sherman
Johnson (IL)	Musgrave	Sherwood
Johnson, E. B.	Myrick	Shimkus
Johnson, Sam	Nadler	Shuster
Jones (NC)	Napolitano	Simmons
Jones (OH)	Neal (MA)	Simpson
Kanjorski	Neugebauer	Skelton
Kaptur	Ney	Slaughter
Keller	Northup	Smith (NJ)
Kelly	Norwood	Smith (TX)
Kennedy (MN)	Nunes	Smith (WA)
Kennedy (RI)	Nussle	Snyder
Kildee	Oberstar	Sodrel
Kilpatrick (MI)	Obey	Solis
Kind	Oliver	Souder
King (IA)	Ortiz	Spratt
King (NY)	Otter	Stark
Kingston	Owens	Stearns
Kirk	Oxley	Strickland
Kline	Pallone	Stupak
Knollenberg	Pascrell	Sullivan
Kolbe	Pastor	Sweeney
Kucinich	Paul	Tanner
Kuhl (NY)	Payne	Tauscher
LaHood	Pearce	Taylor (MS)
Langevin	Pelosi	Taylor (NC)
Lantos	Pence	Terry
Larsen (WA)	Peterson (MN)	Thomas
Larson (CT)	Peterson (PA)	Thompson (CA)
Latham	Petri	Thompson (MS)
LaTourette	Pickering	Thornberry
Lee	Platts	Poe
Levin	Pombo	Tiberi
Lewis (CA)	Pomeroy	Tierney
Lewis (GA)	Porter	Towns
Lewis (KY)	Price (GA)	Turner
Linder	Price (NC)	Udall (CO)
Lipinski	Pryce (OH)	Udall (NM)
LoBiondo	Putnam	Upton
Lofgren, Zoe	Radanovich	Van Hollen
Lowe	Rahall	Velázquez
Lucas	Ramstad	Visclosky
Lungren, Daniel	Rangel	Walden (OR)
E.	Regula	Walsh
Lynch	Rehberg	Waters
Mack	Reichert	Watson
Maloney	Renzi	Watt
Manzullo	Reyes	Waxman
Marchant	Reynolds	Weiner
Markey	Rogers (AL)	Weldon (FL)
Matheson	Rogers (KY)	Weldon (PA)
Matsui	Rogers (MI)	Weller
McCarthy	Rohrabacher	Westmoreland
McCaul (TX)	Ros-Lehtinen	Wexler
McCollum (MN)	Ross	Whitfield
McCotter	Rothman	Wicker
McCrery	Roybal-Allard	Wilson (NM)
McDermott	Ruppersberger	Wilson (SC)
McGovern	Rush	Wolf
McHenry	Ryan (OH)	Wu
McHugh	Ryan (WI)	Wynn
McIntyre	Ryun (KS)	Young (AK)
McKeon	Sabo	Young (FL)
McKinney	Salazar	
McMorris		

NAYS—5

NOT VOTING—17

Duncan	Gutknecht	Tancredo
Flake	Royce	
Berman	Hinchey	Osborne
Bishop (UT)	Hunter	Pitts
Blumenauer	Leach	Wamp
Campbell (CA)	Marshall	Wasserman
DeFazio	Miller, Gary	Schultz
Evans	Murtha	Woolsey

□ 1821

Mr. ROYCE changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 678) and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 678

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.—Mr. Carnahan.

(2) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—Mr. Barrow.

(3) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Mr. Salazar.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AL GORE STATEMENTS OUT OF LINE

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, most of us have been respectful on the issue of security, even though some of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle obstruct for reasons that many times we do not discern. But there has been a trend of late of Democrat leaders traveling overseas to deliver speeches bashing America.

This past weekend, former Vice President Al Gore gave a speech in Saudi Arabia declaring that America had committed terrible abuses against Arabs after September 11. He said that Arabs had been indiscriminately rounded up and held in unforgivable conditions.

Mr. Speaker, there are some things that you simply do not do as a former American leader, and one of them is to bash your country on foreign soil. His comments are out of line, incorrect, and further proof of his disconnect with reality. He owes an apology to the countless men and women working around the clock trying to keep this country from experiencing another September 11. Our colleagues across the aisle ought to take him to task for his irresponsibility.

VICE PRESIDENT MUST ALSO FOLLOW LAWS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to follow my colleague from Tennessee to talk about the bad behavior of vice presidents.

Let me first of all say that when you are a civilian, you are a civilian. But I rise today to express my deepest disappointment in the behavior of the Vice President of the United States of America. A man was injured on the soil of Texas; and, lo and behold, it took us 20 hours before the American people and the President of the United States could have one iota of information.

I wish the attorney in Texas best wishes and good health, but I want to say to the Vice President of the United States that the inherent powers of the presidency do not inure to you, where you are allowed to travel secretly on Air Force II, to not allow the press to follow you as any public servant would have and to hide and cover up a drastic and tragic incident that occurred in the United States of America or anywhere around the world.

I believe the Vice President should own up to what occurred. I understand he made some remarks today, a little too short and a little too delayed. I believe we have seen again a cover-up of this administration, and the Vice President is the chief cover-upper of the United States of America.

Mr. Vice President, you, too, are subject to the laws of the United States of America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND). The Chair reminds all Members to direct their comments to the Chair.

REIMPORTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS BEING DESTROYED

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to everyone's attention that Customs and Border Protection has recently begun confiscating and destroying prescription drugs intercepted at the U.S.-Canadian border. Unfortunately, CBP is offering no recourse to appeal this action.

While we all know that reimporting prescription drugs from Canada has not been legal in the United States for decades, this practice is not helping our seniors. However, if Border Patrol is suddenly going to enforce a law that many believed that government was no longer interested in enforcing, then they certainly should notify shippers and purchasers. Instead of simply confiscating and destroying these prescription drugs, they should include a warning in the first instance. The majority of the people purchasing these drugs are seniors on fixed incomes and likely do not have the money to repurchase them once they are destroyed.

I urge Customs and Border Protection to at least warn customers when agents intercept these packages. A simple letter would save a lot of grief for many, many seniors who use this procedure and not just seniors but other Americans who choose to purchase their drugs from a Canadian connection.

SAY NO TO HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, when President Bush served as governor of Texas, that State had more uninsured people than any other State in the union, and his system continues until today: Texas still has more uninsured people percentage-wise as well as numerically.

Today, President Bush visited Ohio to try to sell his latest health care scheme. The reality is his health savings accounts are simply tax shelters for the healthy and wealthy, leaving more Americans worse off. Indeed, the numbers of the uninsured in Ohio have grown dramatically during his administration. More than one out of four people under the age of 65 went without health insurance, and almost half of Ohio's households with children are uninsured, while 76 percent of the uninsured are members of working families.

The President's travel stop today reminds me of his Social Security drive to privatize that a year ago. The American people said no. Our working families deserve better and should not buy this latest ploy for health savings accounts either that are going to leave most Americans in the drink.

HONORING SARAH TERRY

(Mr. GOODE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, Sarah Terry, who is the director of the Farmville Fifth District Office, has battled breast cancer for the last several years and has undergone numerous chemotherapy treatments.

She has served as Executive Director of the Farmville Area Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Longwood University Board of Visitors, and a leading promoter of outdoor activities such as hiking and cycling. She is a leading proponent of the Virginia Life Fund for the Uninsured, which has raised funds for catastrophic health care for those who cannot afford insurance.

Sarah's enthusiasm for life, her community and her fellow Americans is contagious; and she is a true inspiration for many. We are grateful for the contributions that she has made; and we look forward to her continued outstanding service to Farmville, Virginia, and America.

□ 1830

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, we are always glad to have the President of the United States in Ohio, but his health care policies miss an important fact, and that is that \$1 out of every \$4 for health care in the United States goes to the for-profit sector. \$1.6 trillion is spent every year on health care in the United States, but over \$400 billion goes for corporate profits, advertising, marketing, the cost of paperwork, up to 30 percent for the cost of paperwork.

We have over 46 million Americans who lack health insurance, who lack access to quality health care. H.R. 676, the Conyers-Kucinich-Kaptur bill, presents Americans with an alternative, universal, single-payer, not-for-profit health care, Medicare for all.

There is no reason why anyone in this country should be lacking health care when America has the resources right now. It would not cost much more than what we are paying right now. As a matter of fact, Americans are paying for a universal standard of care. They are just not getting it because it is all about corporations making a profit. It is not about people. Support Medicare for all.

CHECKS AND BALANCES

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I would remind the gentleman from Ohio that Tulane Medical Center opened today with a lot of fanfare. That is one of those dreadful private, for-profit corporations; and they are the first such hospital back in business in New Orleans. Ray Nagin said he wished he could bottle that and extend it to other companies.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about the domestic surveillance that was in the news earlier. My colleagues may not have noticed a rather insightful op ed piece that appeared in the Washington Times on January 6 of this year penned by an Alan Nathan.

Mr. Nathan writes that neither Congress nor the judiciary can remove this repeatedly court-recognized inherent authority granted to the President under the Constitution, just as the President cannot remove any of their powers guaranteed in the same great document.

When called upon, all intelligence organizations in the United States are structured to operate in conjunction with the military and accordingly become an integral part of the President's domain as Commander in Chief. Congress voted for this on September 14, 2001, in the war resolution invoked under the War Powers Act of 1973 authorizing the President to use force against all nations.